## Message Text

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**ACTION DLOS-05** 

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 L-02 IO-10 OES-03 SS-15 PM-03

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FM AMEMBASSY NASSAU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6476

SECRET NASSAU 355

E. O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PLOS BF

SUBJ: ARCHIPELAGO AND STRAITS NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE BAHAMAS

REF: NASSAU 169; LONDON 1599; STATE 26357

- 1. EMBASSY TWICE HAS ASKED MINEXTAFF PERMSEC ORIS RUSSELL FOR STATUS REPORT ON GCOB CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSAL WHICH PROVIDES FOR MUTUAL LOS COOPERATION TO ACHIEVE BOTH US STRAITS OBJECTIVES AND INCLUSION OF BAHAMAS IN ARCHIPELAGO CONCEPT. ON BOTH OCCASIONS RUSSELL APPEARED EMBARRASSED AS HE REPORTED THAT NOTHING HAD AS YET BEEN DONE.
- 2. ON FEB 14 DCM MET WITH RUSSELL TO BRIEF HIM AS AUTHORIZED BY STATE 26357 ON REACTIONS OF MARITIME POWERS TO CONTENTS OF US/GCOB ARCHIPELAGO TALKS. RUSSELL WAS VERY APPRECIATIVE OF INFORMATION AND SAID HE WOULD MAKE IT AVILABLE TO MINEXTAFF ADDERLEY. WHEN QUERIED BY DCM, HE SAID THAT GCOB HAD NOT AT THAT TIME CONSULTED WITH CUBANS BUT IT REMAINED THEIR INTENTION TO DO SO. HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT CUBAN CONSULTATIONS AND CABINET CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSAL FOR US/GCOB COOPERATION WERE NOT LINKED AND BOTH COULD PROCEED AT THEIR OWN PACE. HE SAID HE DID NOT KNOW WHAT THAT PACE WOULD BE.
- 3. IN CONNECTION WITH BRIEFING RUSSELL OFTALKS WITH GROUP OF FIVE (AS REQUESTED WE AVOIDED IMPLICATION THAT THERE HAD BEEN SINGLE MEETING OF MARITIME POWERS AS GROUP OF FIVE) DCM DID NOT REPEAT NOT ADVISE RUSSELL THAT US HAD MADE MAP OF US PROSECRET

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POSED BAHAMIAN ARCHIPELAGO LINES AVAILABLE TO SOVIETS. WHILE

IT IS IMPORTANT TO KEEP GCOB AS FULLY INFORMED AS POSSIBLE, WE WERE UNCERTAIN OF ADDERLEY'S REACTION. AT SOME POINT ADDERLEY WILL BECOME AWARE OF WHAT WE HAVE DONE (WE PRESUME SOVIETS WILL HAVE MADE MAP AVAILABLE TO CUBANS) AND, WHILE THERE MAY BE NO REACTION AT ALL, US REPS SHOULD BE ON GUARD AGAINST POSSIBILITY OF A NEGATIVE REACTION.

4. BETWEEN FEB 14 MEETING WITH RUSSELL AND FOLLOW-UP SESSION FEB 25, EMBASSY BECAME AWARE THAT MINEXTAFF FIRST ASSISTANT SECRETARY GEORGE STEWART HAD PREPARED PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT OF US PROPOSAL REFLECTING BASIC AGREEMENT WITH IT. DOCUMENT WAS FOR ADDERLEY BUT WHETHER ADDERLEY INTENDS TO USE IT AS BASIS FOR HIS PRESENTATION TO CABINET IS NOT CLEAR.

5. AT FEB 25 MEETING BETWEEN DCM AND RUSSELL, RUSSELL ONCE AGAIN APPEARED EMBARRASSED THAT HE COULD NOT REPORT PROGRESS. HE DID SAY HE HAD HAD ONE OPPORTUNITY TO INITIATE DISCUSSION WITH ADDERLEY ON NEED TO ADDRESS LOS ISSUE BUT THAT MEETING WAS INTERRUPTED AND LOS CONSIDERATION WITHIN MINEXTAFF ITSELF HAS NOT BEEN RESUMED. RUSSELL COULD NOT SAY WHEN IT WOULD BE ALTHOUGH HE SAID HE WOULD KEEP TRYING (NOTE: GCOB HAS YET TO SELECT LOS DELEGATION WHICH WILL BE APPROVED BY ADDERLEY SO WE WOULD HOPE THA EITHER URGENCY OF TIMELY CONSIDERATION OF ARCHI-PELAGO/STRAITS PROPOSAL OR JUST PLAIN NEED TO SAY WHO WILL BE GOING TO GENEVA WILL BRING LOS TOPICS BACK TO TOP OF ADDER-LEY'S DESK IN SHORT TIME). AS WE DISCUSSED WHEN JOHN NORTON MOORE AND US/LOS TEAM WERE IN NASSAU, INABILITY OF GCOB TO MAKE DECISIONS MAY NOT BE OVERCOME BY IMPORTANCE OF THIS ISSUE TO GCOB INTERESTS. WE THINK NEXT APPROACH FROM OUR SIDE SHOULD BE FROM AMBASSADOR TO ADDERLEY. IS THERE ANYTHING WE CAN REPORT BEYOND WHAT WAS IN PARAGRAPHS 2-4 OF LONDON 1599 WHICH COULD PROVIDE SUBSTANTIVE BASIS FOR ANOTHER APPROACH TO MINEXTAFF? ALSO, CAN WE INFORM ADDERLEY THAT, AS FAR AS US SIDE IS CONCERNED, UNDERTAKING TO SUBMIT TO US GOVERNMENT PROPOSAL FOR MUTUAL COOPERATION HAS BEEN MET AND US IS PRE-PARED TO ENTER INTO COMMITMENT ON BASIS OF AGREED RECORD OF DISCUSSIONS?

6. DEPARTMENT: PLEASE PASS AS YOU FIND APPROPRIATE.
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